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MARVEL®
WALLY
THE WIZARD™
SINCE YOU'VE CUT MY NOTES IN TWO-- HALF A SPELL WILL HALF TO DO!

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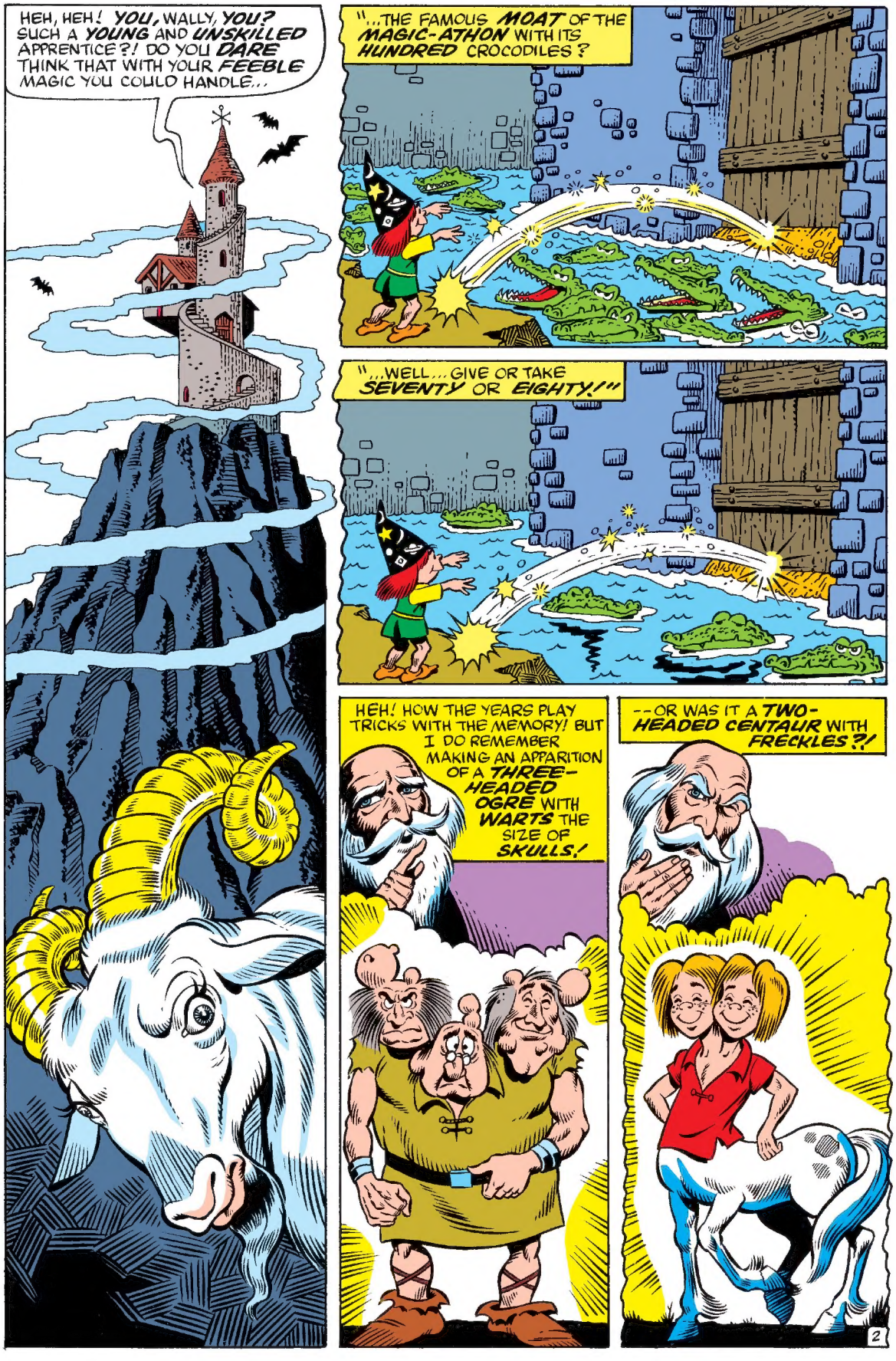
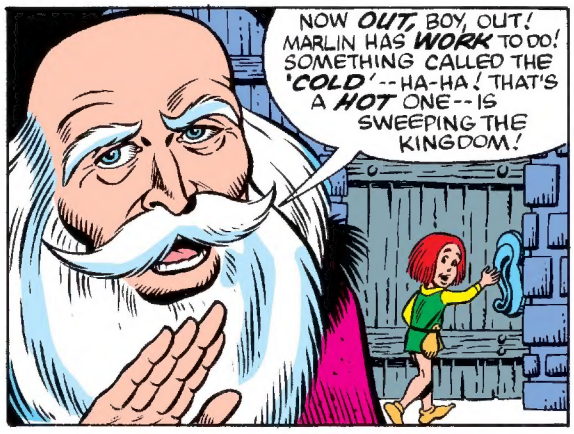
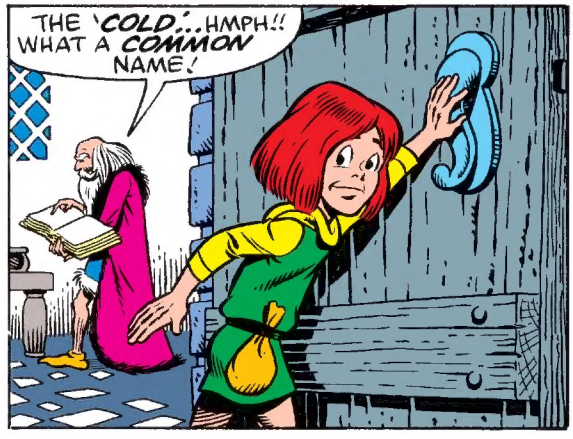
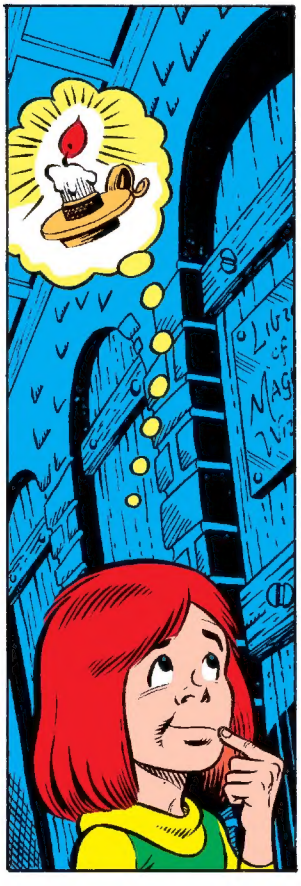
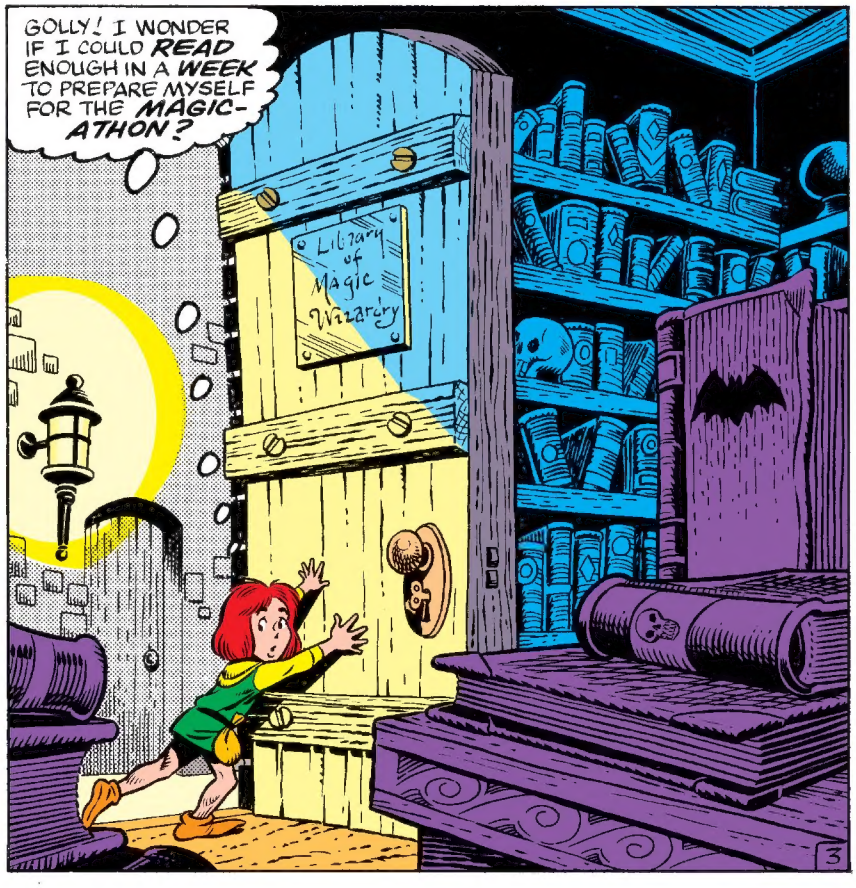

HEH, HEH! YOU, WALLY, YOU? SUCH A YOUNG AND UNSKILLED APPRENTICE?! DO YOU DARE THINK THAT WITH YOUR FEEBLE MAGIC YOU COULD HANDLE...
"...THE FAMOUS MOAT OF THE MAGIC-ATHON WITH ITS HUNDRED CROCODILES?
"...WELL... GIVE OR TAKE SEVENTY OR EIGHTY!"
HEH! HOW THE YEARS PLAY TRICKS WITH THE MEMORY! BUT I DO REMEMBER MAKING AN APPARITION OF A THREE-HEADED OGRE WITH WARTS THE SIZE OF SKULLS!
--OR WAS IT A TWO-HEADED CENTAUR WITH FRECKLES?!
2

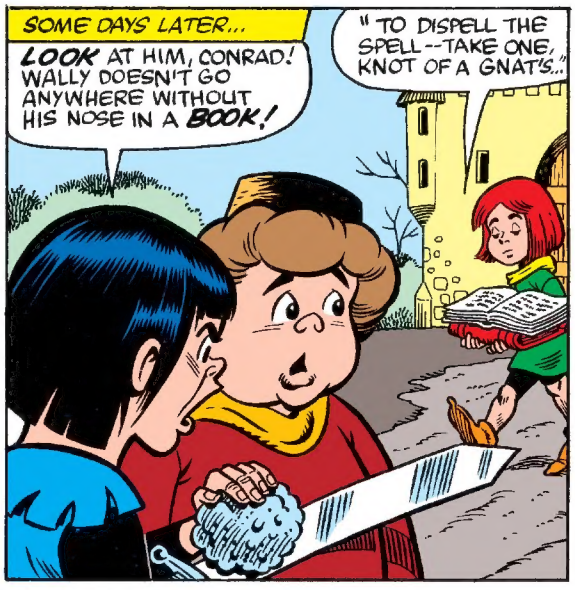
GOLLY! YOU MUST HAVE BEEN AN IN-CREDIBLE KID, MARLIN! HOW I WOULD LOVE TO BE LIKE YOU!
HEH, HEH! I SHOULDN'T WONDER, WALLY. BUT NO MAGIC-ATHON FOR YOU THIS YEAR, MY BOY! THERE IS YET TOO MUCH FOR YOU TO LEARN AND IT'S JUST A WEEK AWAY!


NOW OUT, BOY, OUT! MARLIN HAS WORK TO DO! SOMETHING CALLED THE 'COLD'--HA-HA! THAT'S A HOT ONE--IS SWEEPING THE KINGDOM!

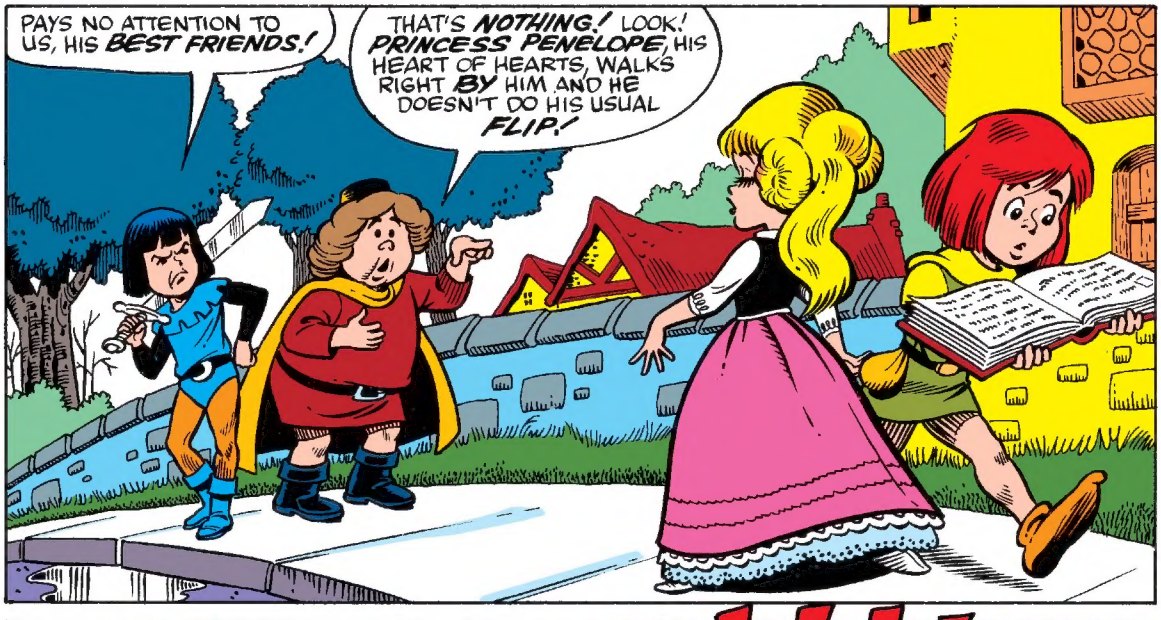

THE 'COLD'...HMPH!! WHAT A COMMON NAME!

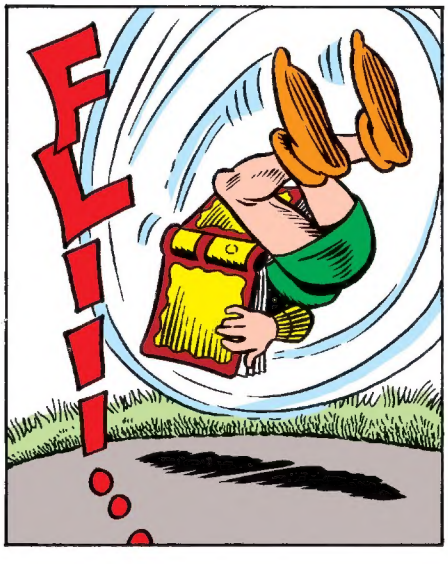


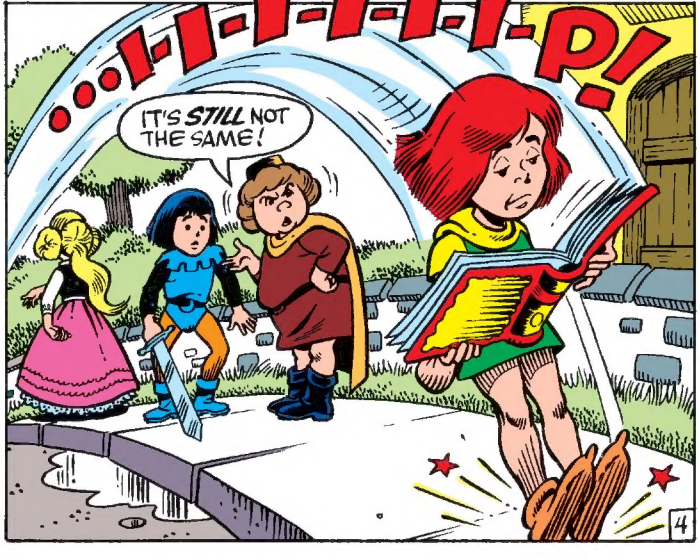

GOLLY! I WONDER IF I COULD READ ENOUGH IN A WEEK TO PREPARE MYSELF FOR THE MAGIC-ATHON?
Library of Magic Wizardry

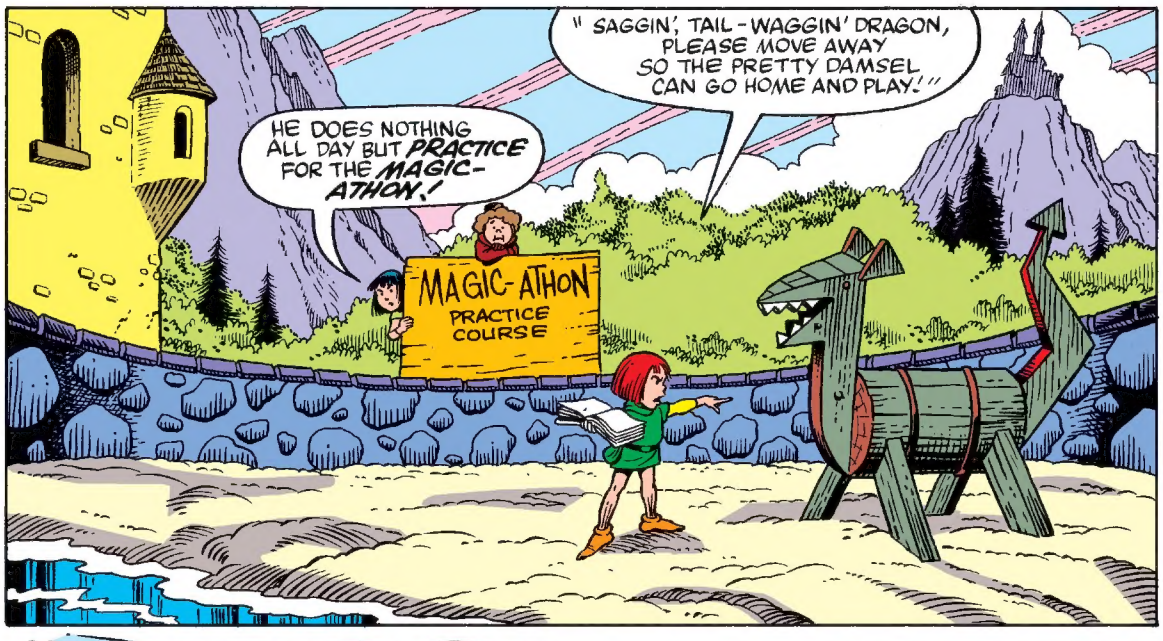

SOME DAYS LATER...
LOOK AT HIM, CONRAD! WALLY DOESN'T GO ANYWHERE WITHOUT HIS NOSE IN A BOOK!
"TO DISPELL THE SPELL--TAKE ONE, KNOT OF A GNAT'S..."

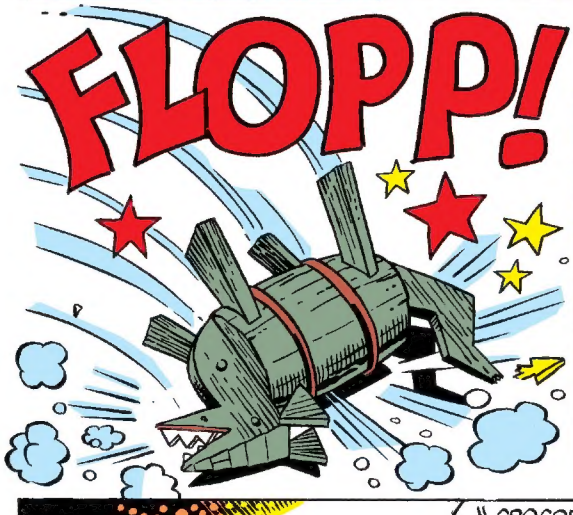
HE EVEN LEAVES A TRAIL OF THEM BEHIND HIM, JAY!

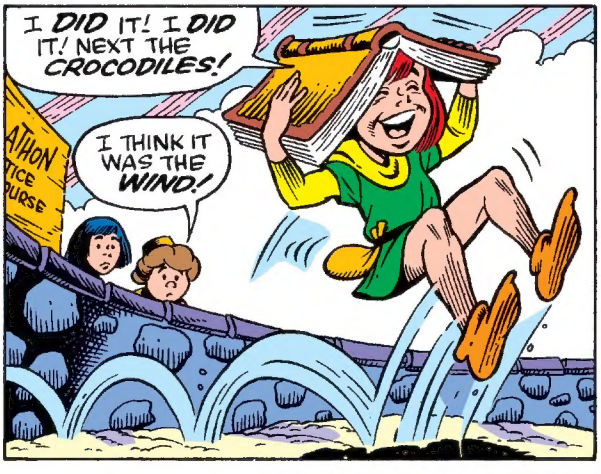

PAYS NO ATTENTION TO US, HIS BEST FRIENDS!
THAT'S NOTHING! LOOK! PRINCESS PENELOPE, HIS HEART OF HEARTS, WALKS RIGHT BY HIM AND HE DOESN'T DO HIS USUAL FLIP!

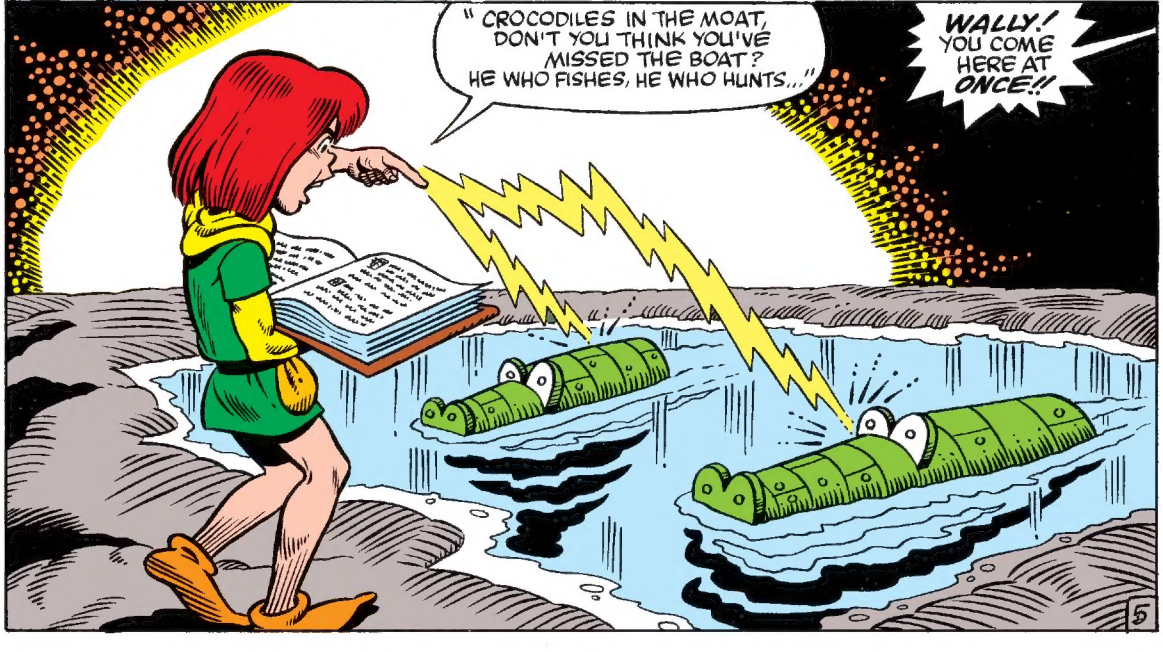

FL-I-I-I...

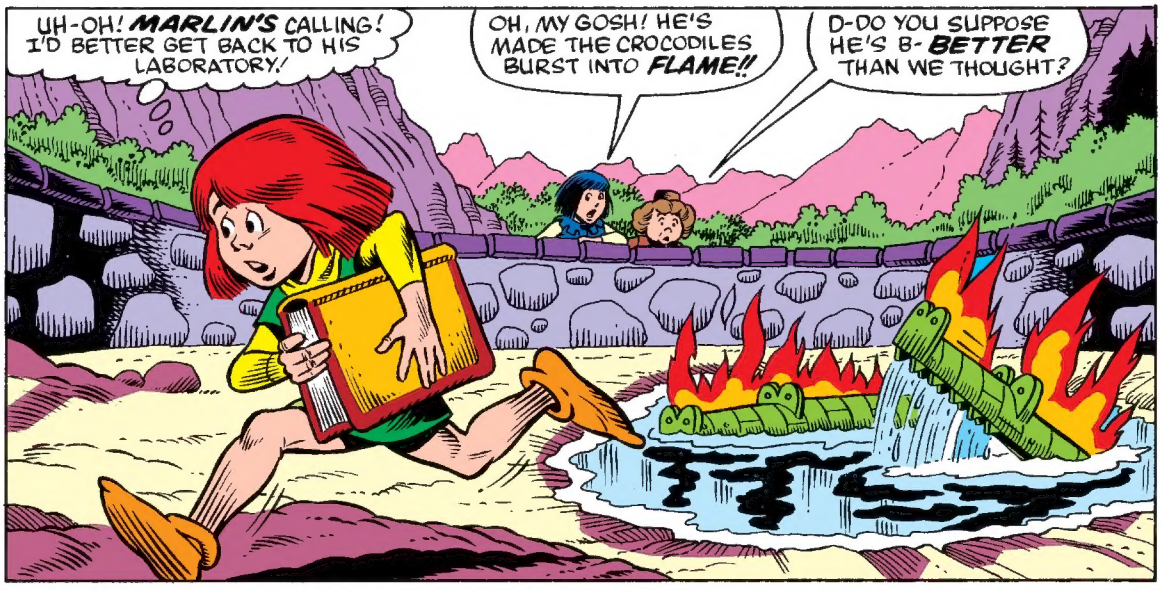

...I-I-I-I-I-I-I-P!
IT'S STILL NOT THE SAME!


" SAGGIN', TAIL-WAGGIN' DRAGON, PLEASE MOVE AWAY SO THE PRETTY DAMSEL CAN GO HOME AND PLAY!"
HE DOES NOTHING ALL DAY BUT PRACTICE FOR THE MAGIC-ATHON!
MAGIC-ATHON PRACTICE COURSE


FLOPP!

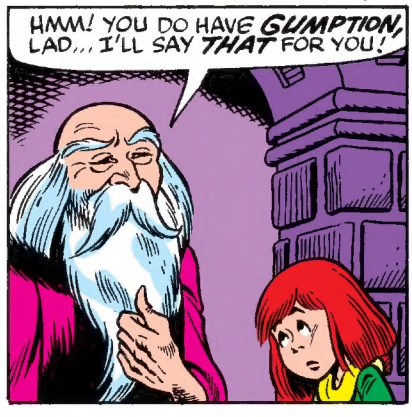

I DID IT! I DID IT! NEXT THE CROCODILES!
I THINK IT WAS THE WIND!

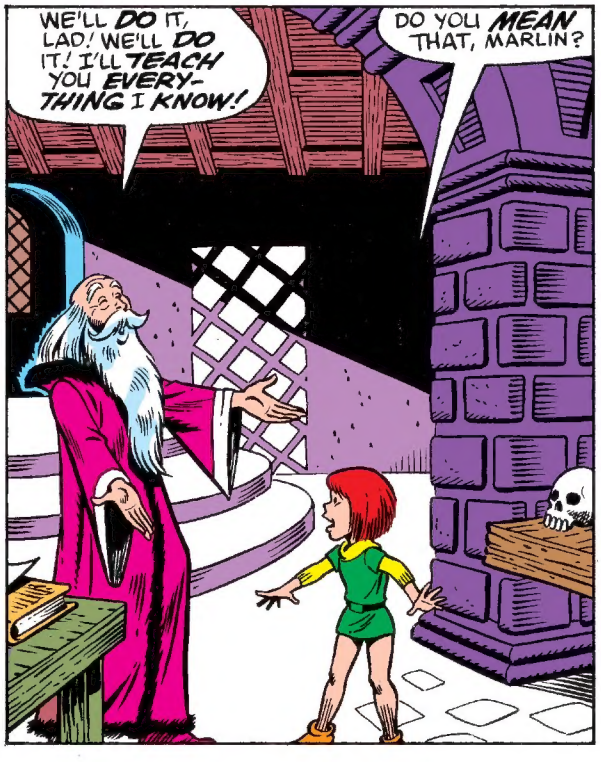

" CROCODILES IN THE MOAT, DON'T YOU THINK YOU'VE MISSED THE BOAT? HE WHO FISHES, HE WHO HUNTS..."
WALLY! YOU COME HERE AT ONCE!!

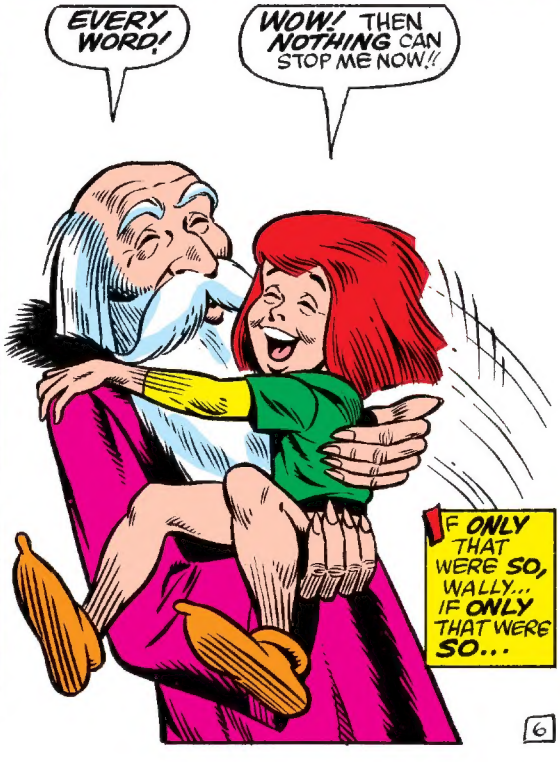

UH-OH! MARLIN'S CALLING! I'D BETTER GET BACK TO HIS LABORATORY!
OH, MY GOSH! HE'S MADE THE CROCODILES BURST INTO FLAME!!
D-DO YOU SUPPOSE HE'S B-BETTER THAN WE THOUGHT?

YOU'VE BEEN TAKING NOTES ON MAGIC, WALLY--YOU DIDN'T LISTEN TO ME, DID YOU?
B...BUT...

NO 'BUTS'! YOU'D LIKE TO ENTER THE MAGIC-ATHON AND MAKE A FOOL OF YOURSELF, WOULDN'T YOU?!
I ONLY W-WANT TO TRY...


HMM! YOU DO HAVE GUMPTION, LAD... I'LL SAY THAT FOR YOU!


WE'LL DO IT, LAD! WE'LL DO IT! I'LL TEACH YOU EVERY-THING I KNOW!
DO YOU MEAN THAT, MARLIN?

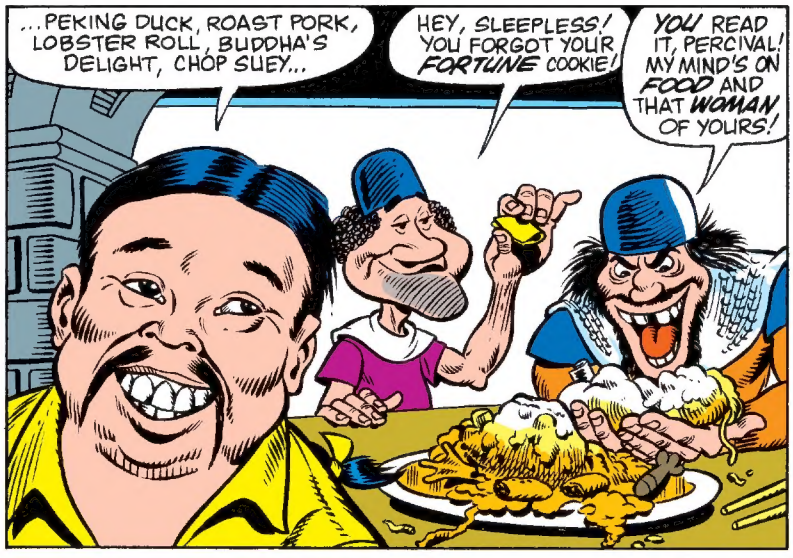

EVERY WORD!
WOW! THEN NOTHING CAN STOP ME NOW!!
IF ONLY THAT WERE SO, WALLY... IF ONLY THAT WERE SO...

FOR THAT VERY EVENING, AT AN ALL NIGHT INN, AS THE FEARSOME SLEEPLESS KNIGHT SHARES A TABLE WITH SOME FRIENDS...

BOY, SLEEPLESS, DO WE HAVE A BLIND DATE FOR YOU! A YOUNG, BEAUTIFUL, SISTER-IN-LAW TO THE COUSIN OF THE AUNT OF THE QUEEN'S STEP-MOTHER!

HEY! PRACTICALLY =YAWN= ROYALTY!

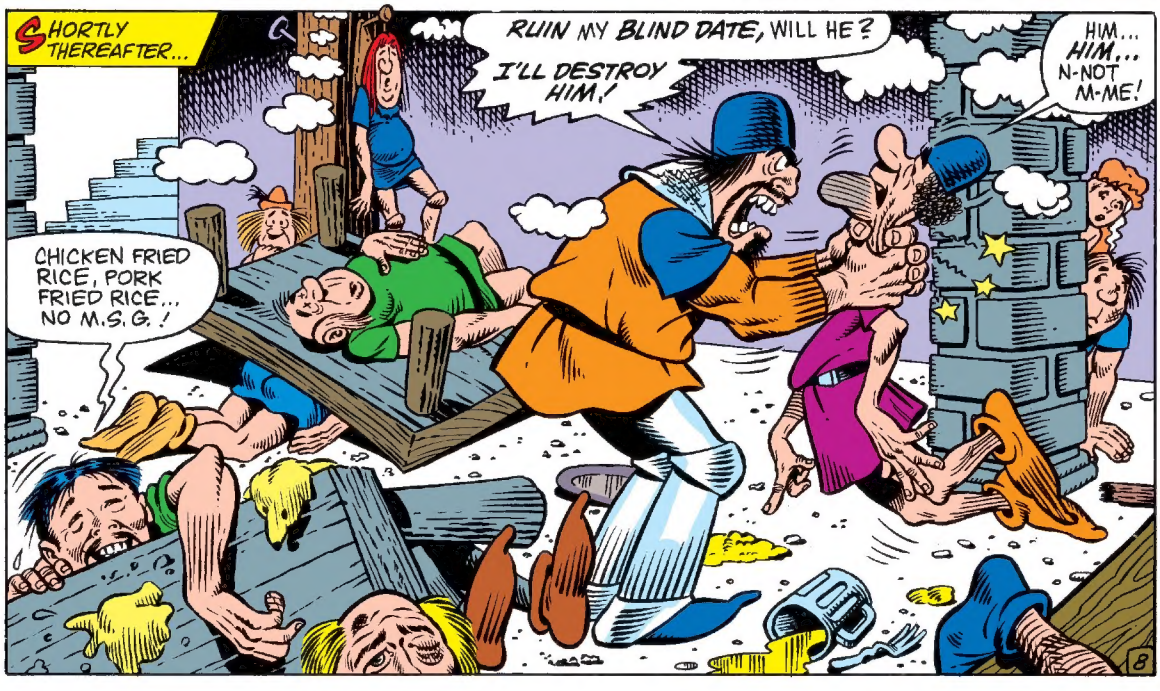
--AND SHE CAN'T WAIT TO MEET YOU! SHE'LL BE AT THE MAGIC-ATHON!

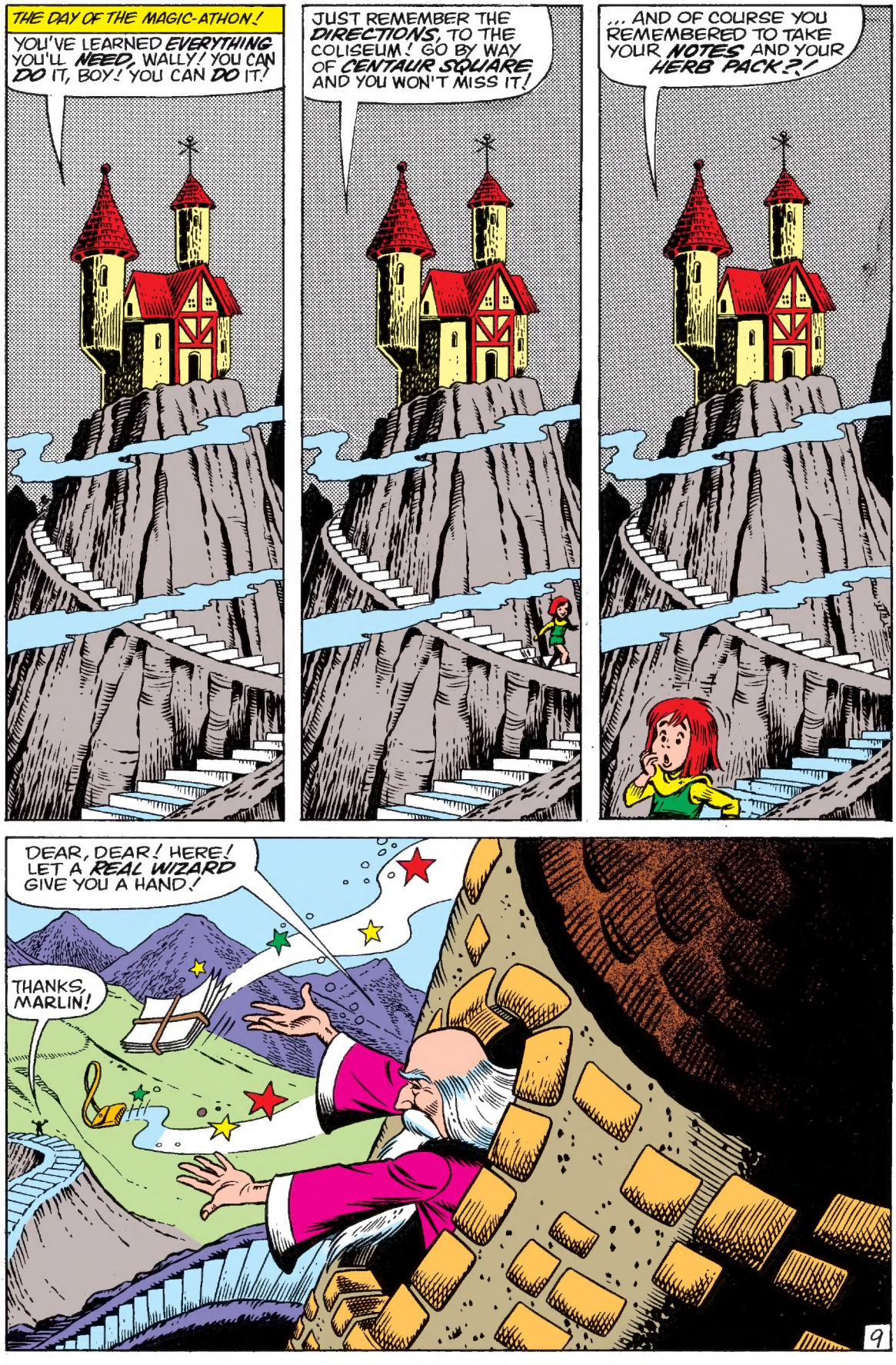

...PEKING DUCK, ROAST PORK, LOBSTER ROLL, BUDDHA'S DELIGHT, CHOP SUEY...
HEY, SLEEPLESS! YOU FORGOT YOUR FORTUNE COOKIE!
YOU READ IT, PERCIVAL! MY MIND'S ON FOOD AND THAT WOMAN OF YOURS!

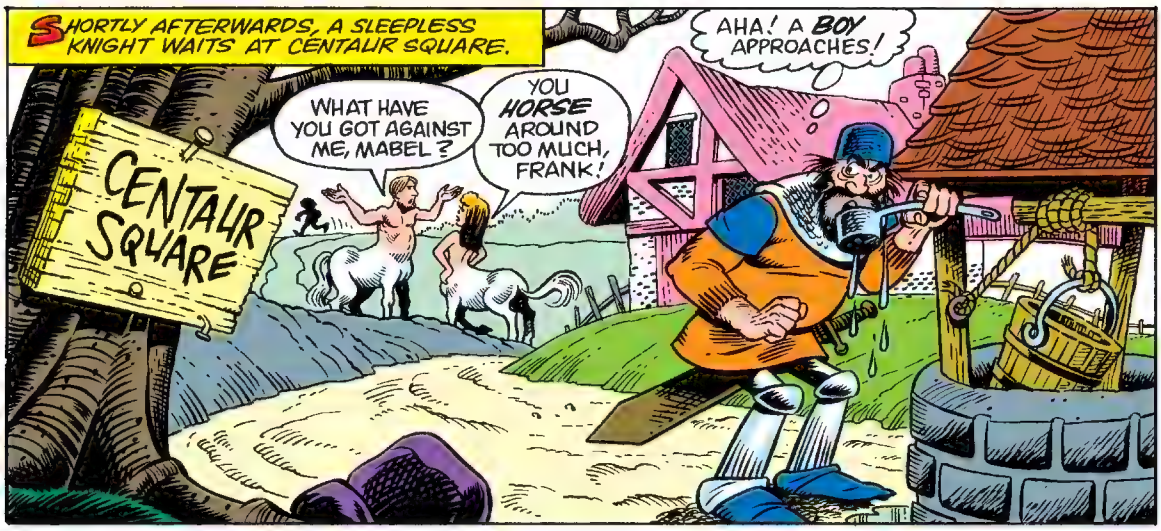
I TH-THINK YOU'D BETTER R-READ IT YOURSELF, SLEEP-LESS!

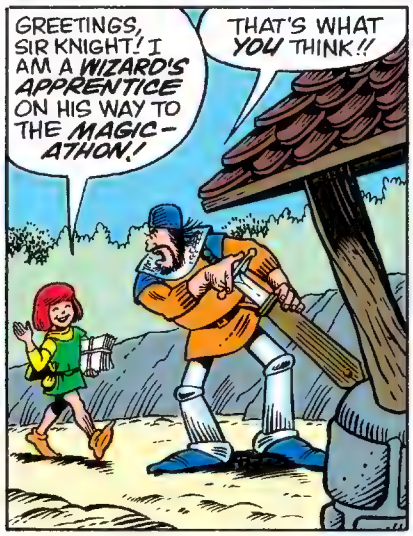
THE DURN THING'S IN CHINESE!!
N-NO, SLEEPLESS! THE OTHER SIDE!

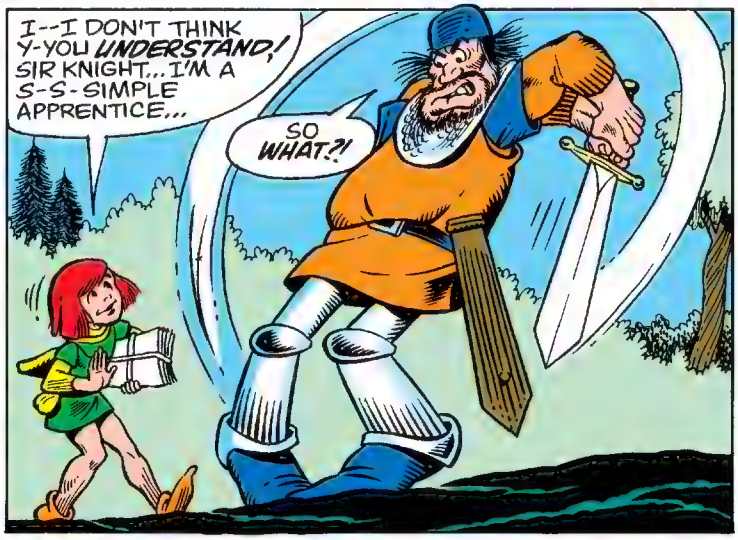
"A young apprentice WIZARD, near CENTAUR SQUARE will ruin your date with a DAMSEL FAIR!"
©KING ARTHUR FORTUNE COOKIES, LTD.

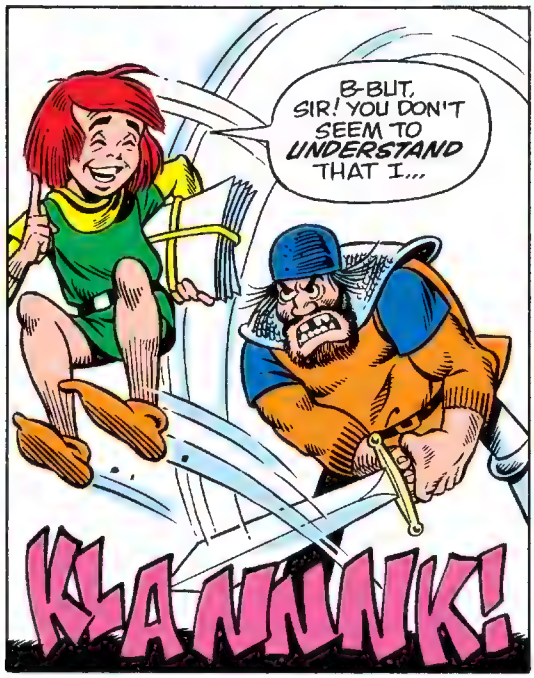

SHORTLY THEREAFTER...
RUIN MY BLIND DATE, WILL HE?
I'LL DESTROY HIM!
HIM... HIM... N-NOT M-ME!
CHICKEN FRIED RICE, PORK FRIED RICE... NO M.S.G.!

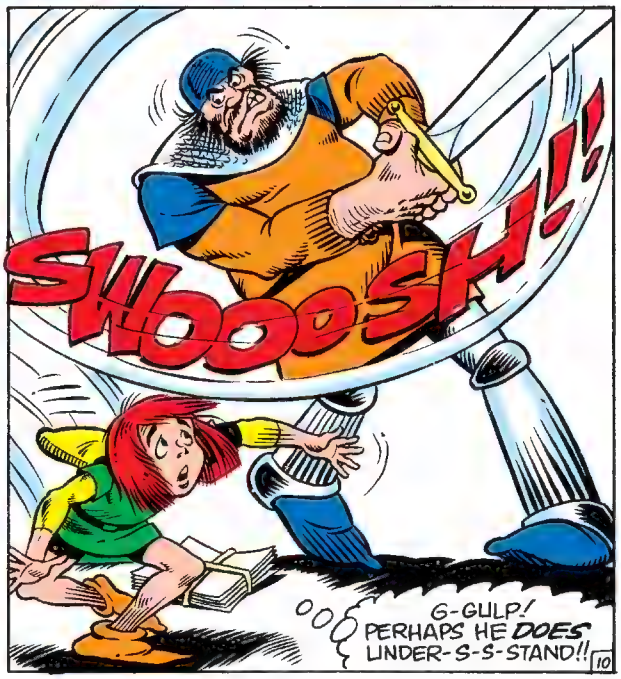

THE DAY OF THE MAGIC-ATHON!
YOU'VE LEARNED EVERYTHING YOU'LL NEED, WALLY! YOU CAN DO IT, BOY! YOU CAN DO IT!
JUST REMEMBER THE DIRECTIONS, TO THE COLISEUM! GO BY WAY OF CENTAUR SQUARE AND YOU WON'T MISS IT!
... AND OF COURSE YOU REMEMBERED TO TAKE YOUR NOTES AND YOUR HERB PACK?!
DEAR, DEAR! HERE! LET A REAL WIZARD GIVE YOU A HAND!
THANKS, MARLIN!

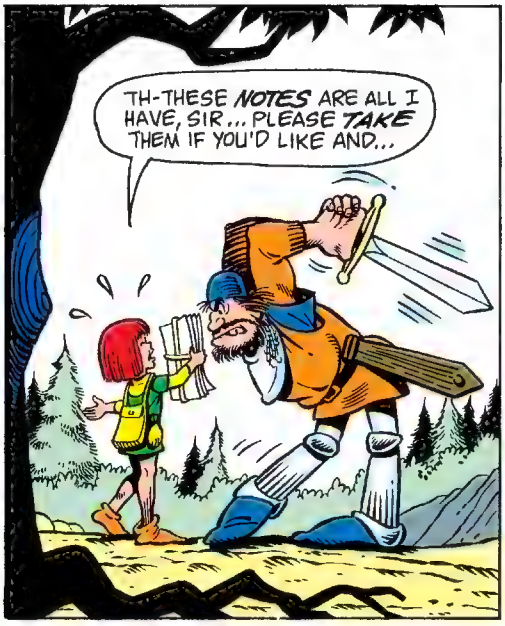

SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, A SLEEPLESS KNIGHT WAITS AT CENTAUR SQUARE.
CENTAUR SQUARE
WHAT HAVE YOU GOT AGAINST ME, MABEL?
YOU HORSE AROUND TOO MUCH, FRANK!
AHA! A BOY APPROACHES!


GREETINGS, SIR KNIGHT! I AM A WIZARD'S APPRENTICE ON HIS WAY TO THE MAGIC-ATHON!
THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK!!


I--I DON'T THINK Y-YOU UNDERSTAND! SIR KNIGHT... I'M A S-S-SIMPLE APPRENTICE...
SO WHAT?!

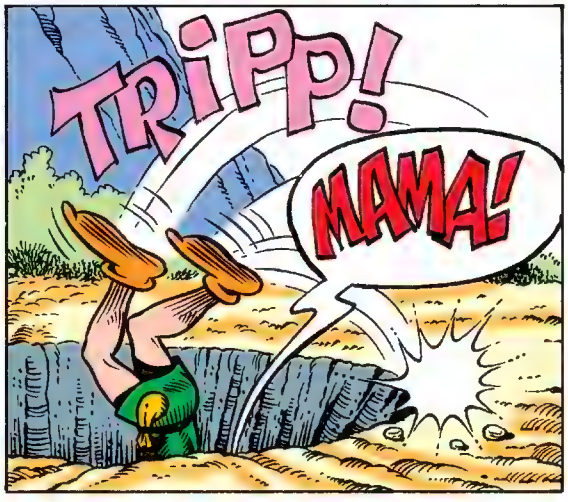

B-BUT, SIR! YOU DON'T SEEM TO UNDERSTAND THAT I...
KLANNNK!


SWOOOSH!!
G-GULP! PERHAPS HE DOES UNDER-S-S-STAND!!

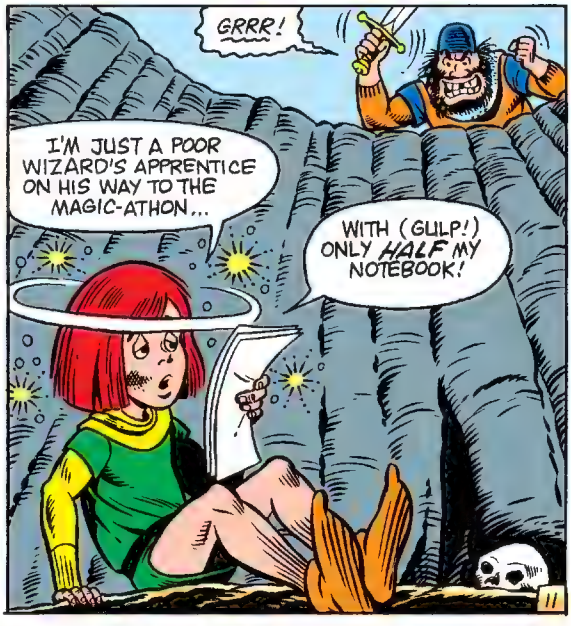

TH-THESE NOTES ARE ALL I HAVE, SIR... PLEASE TAKE THEM IF YOU'D LIKE AND...

SLICE!

TH-THERE'S ONLY ONE THING I HAVE TO S-SAY, S-SIR...
Y-E-E-S?!
SWOOSH!


TRIPP!
MAMA!

HA! DARE TO RUIN ME, EH? YOU AND THAT BLASTED FORTUNE COOKIE SHALL NOT BEST THE SLEEPLESS KNIGHT!
BUT, SIR SLEEP-LESS, I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT?!


GRRR!
I'M JUST A POOR WIZARD'S APPRENTICE ON HIS WAY TO THE MAGIC-ATHON...
WITH (GULP!) ONLY HALF MY NOTEBOOK!

ONLY *HALF* YOUR NOTEBOOK? *HAH!* WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH *HALF* A NOTEBOOK, BOY?!

GOLLY! I DON'T KNOW! I HAVE T-TROUBLE WITH A *WHOLE* ONE!

WHAT *FOOLS* THESE MORTALS BE!

INDEED! AND THEY'RE *BUILT* FUNNY, TOO!

GOLLY! WH-WHAT COULD I DO WITH *HALF* MY NOTES?

"TO MAKE A B YOU SHOULD AND MIX ½ WITH 2 AND

"A LOAF OF BR WITH FLOUR KÜMMEL, THEN

HA! *SOME* WIZARD! *HALF* A BICYCLE AND *HALF* A LOAF OF *BREAD!*

HALF A LOAF 'TIS BETTER THAN *NONE.*

I'VE GOT TO *KEEP* TRYING!

"TO MAKE A DRAG YOU SIMPLY AND TWITCH

"A GARGOYLE HAND IN AIR YOUR NOSE AND YOU LAU...

"A GHOST IS M THEN TAKE A AND BANG IT

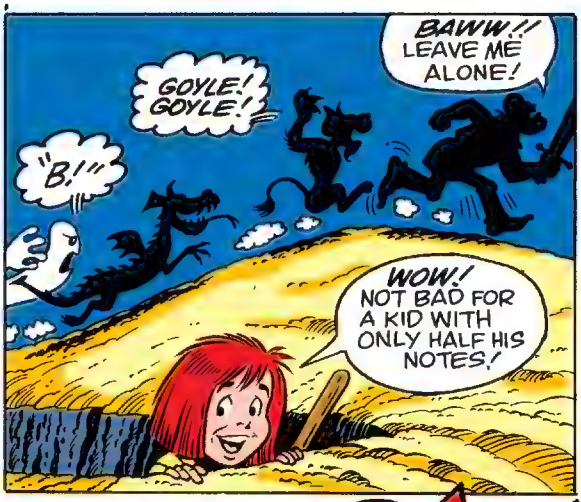
AND SOON--

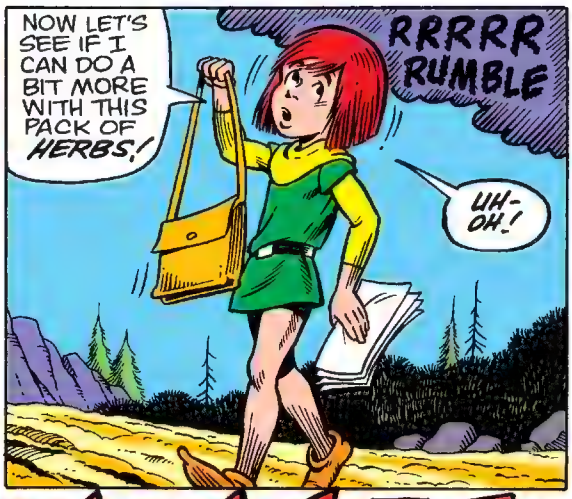
EEE-GADDZZ!!

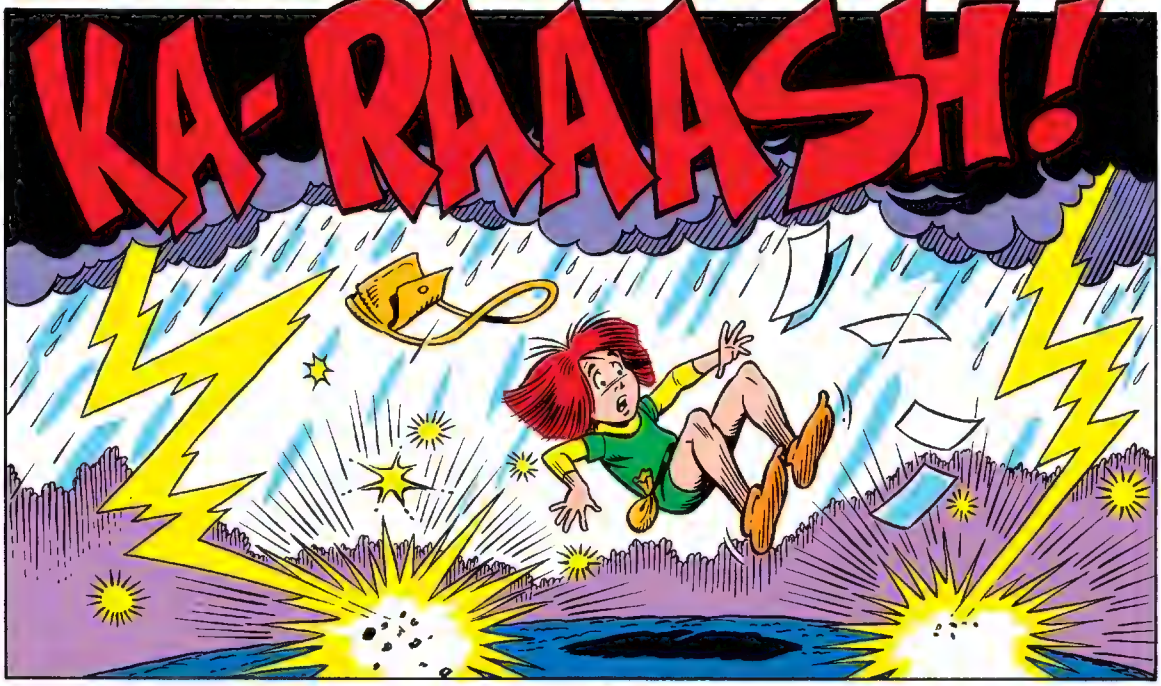
I WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A TWO-HEADED DRAGON.
YOU SHOULD TALK! I'M NOT SURE IF I'M A GAR OR A GOYLE!
DO I SAY "B" OR "OO"?!
I'VE GOT TO G-GET OUT OF H-HERE!
HE'S S-SUMMONED HIS WEIRD P-P-PETS!

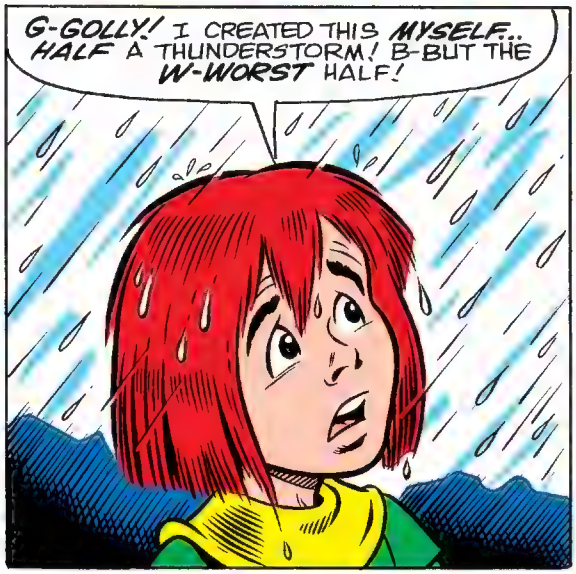
I WON'T FORGET THIS, KID WIZARD! I'VE HALF A MIND TO GO BACK IN THAT PIT AND GET YOU FOR THIS!
HE HAS HALF A MIND?
DOES THAT MAKE HIM ONE OF US?!

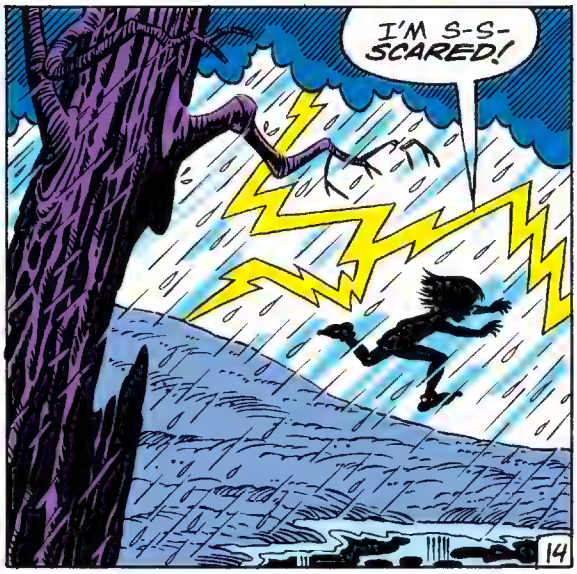
AND... CREATING HALF A LADDER, WALLY CLIMBS GINGERLY OUT OF THE PIT, STILL READING MAGIC HALF-CHANTS...
"THUNDER-STORMS AND A TREE TO THE TUNE...


BAWW!! LEAVE ME ALONE!
GOYLE! GOYLE!
"B!"
WOW! NOT BAD FOR A KID WITH ONLY HALF HIS NOTES!


NOW LET'S SEE IF I CAN DO A BIT MORE WITH THIS PACK OF HERBS!
RRRRR RUMBLE
UH-OH!


KA-RAAASH!


G-GOLLY! I CREATED THIS MYSELF.. HALF A THUNDERSTORM! B-BUT THE W-WORST HALF!


I'M S-S-SCARED!

FINALLY, THE STORM CLEARS, AND THE GARGOYLES, THE CENTAURS, AND EVEN THE **DODO BIRDS** COME OUT OF HIDING...

BUT A SAD, LONELY, SHIVERING FIGURE IS STILL HUDDLING UNDER A TREE...

H-HOW **AWFUL!** IMAGINE WHAT I C-COULD HAVE DONE IF I HAD THE **WHOLE** SPELL?!

BUT NOW I'VE LOST **EVERYTHING...** NO **NOTES**...NO **HERB PACK**... NO **MAGIC!**

-- STILL... I'VE GOT TO HEAD FOR THE MAGIC-ATHON... AND **TRY!**

GET THY PROGRAMMES HERE! CAN'T TELL THE GOOD GUYS FROM THE EVIL WITHOUT A PROGRAMME!!

T-SHIRTS! THY FAVORITE **HEROES** AND **DAMSELS** IN **DISTRESS**!

ICE COLD MEAD! POP-MAIZE AND **HAZELNUTS!!**

ACCURATE **TIMERS** HERE! TIME THE EVENTS **THYSELF!**

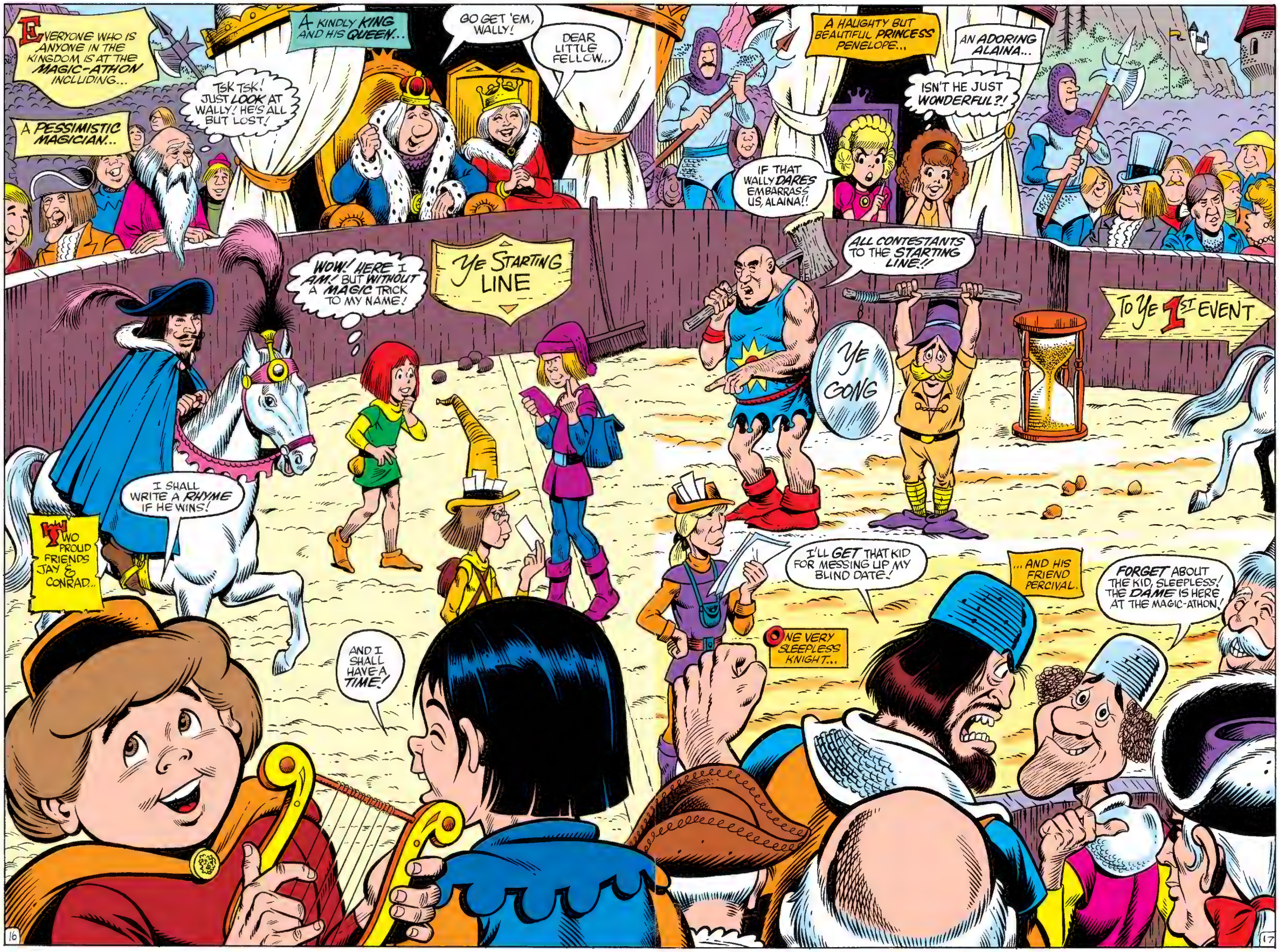
--ALSO TICKETS! ONLY **DOUBLE** IN PRICE!!

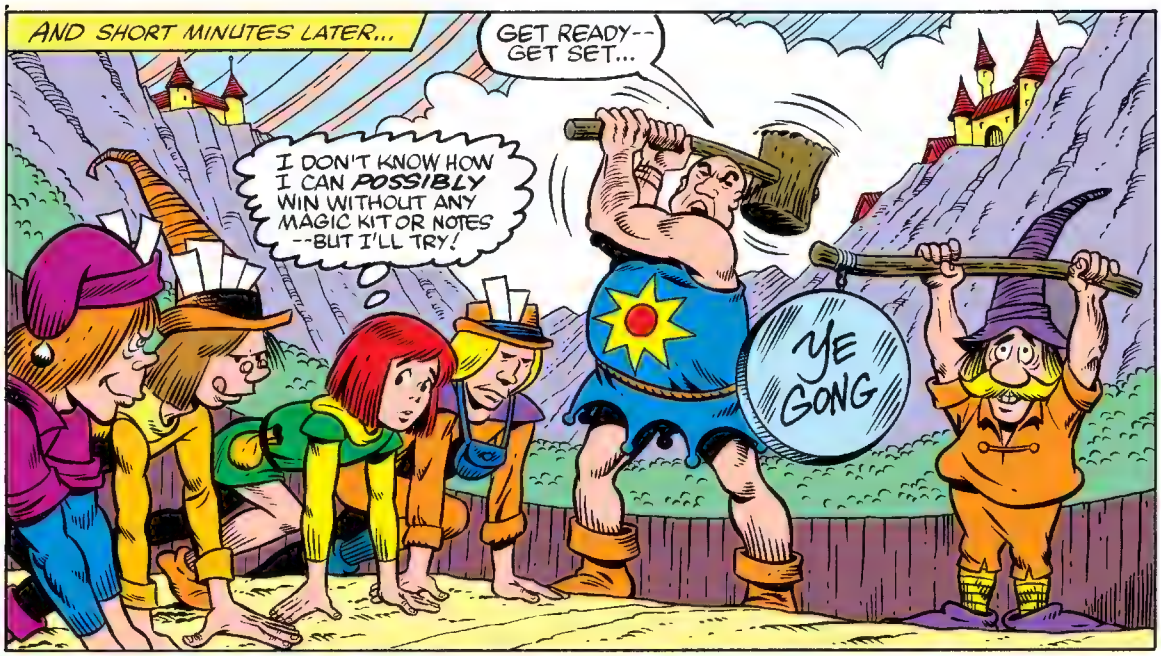
YE XCIV ANNUALLE MAGIC-ATHON

EXCUSE ME...

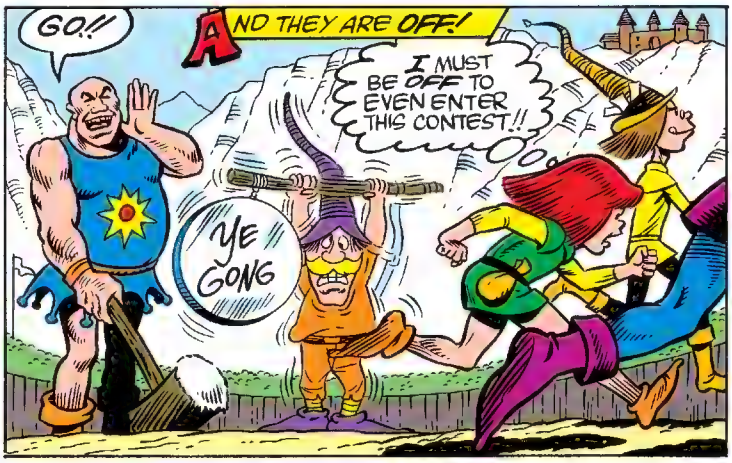
Ye Programme

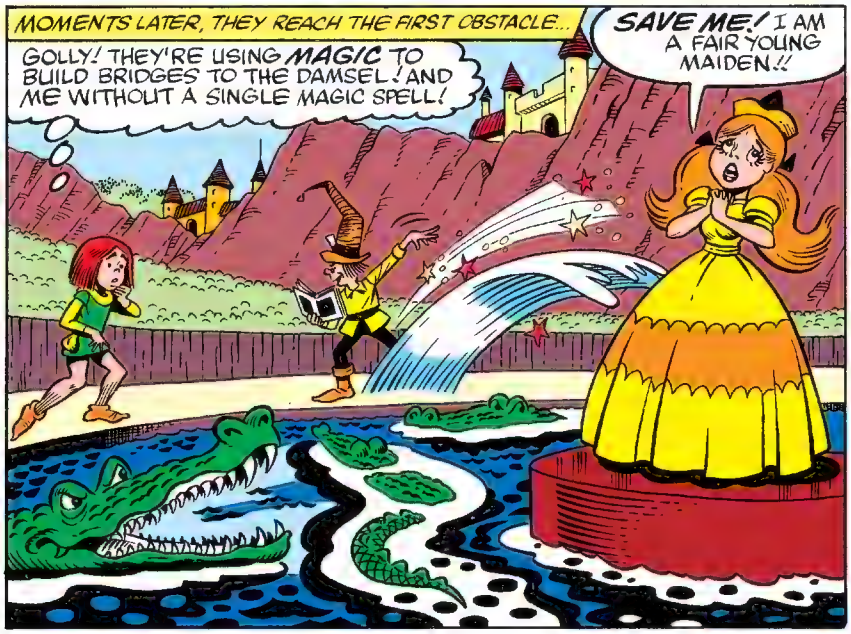
Ye Programme


EVERYONE WHO IS ANYONE IN THE KINGDOM IS AT THE MAGIC-ATHON INCLUDING...
A KINDLY KING AND HIS QUEEN...
GO GET 'EM, WALLY!
DEAR LITTLE FELLOW...
A HAUGHTY BUT BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS PENELOPE...
AN ADORING ALAINA...
A PESSIMISTIC MAGICIAN...
TSK TSK! JUST LOOK AT WALLY! HE'S ALL BUT LOST!
ISN'T HE JUST WONDERFUL?!
IF THAT WALLY DARES EMBARRASS US, ALAINA!!
WOW! HERE I AM! BUT WITHOUT A MAGIC TRICK TO MY NAME!
YE STARTING LINE
ALL CONTESTANTS TO THE STARTING LINE!!
TO YE 1ST EVENT
YE GONG
I SHALL WRITE A RHYME IF HE WINS!
TWO PROUD FRIENDS JAY & CONRAD...
I'LL GET THAT KID FOR MESSING UP MY BLIND DATE!
...AND HIS FRIEND PERCIVAL.
FORGET ABOUT THE KID, SLEEPLESS! THE DAME IS HERE AT THE MAGIC-ATHON!
ONE VERY SLEEPLESS KNIGHT...
AND I SHALL HAVE A TIME!

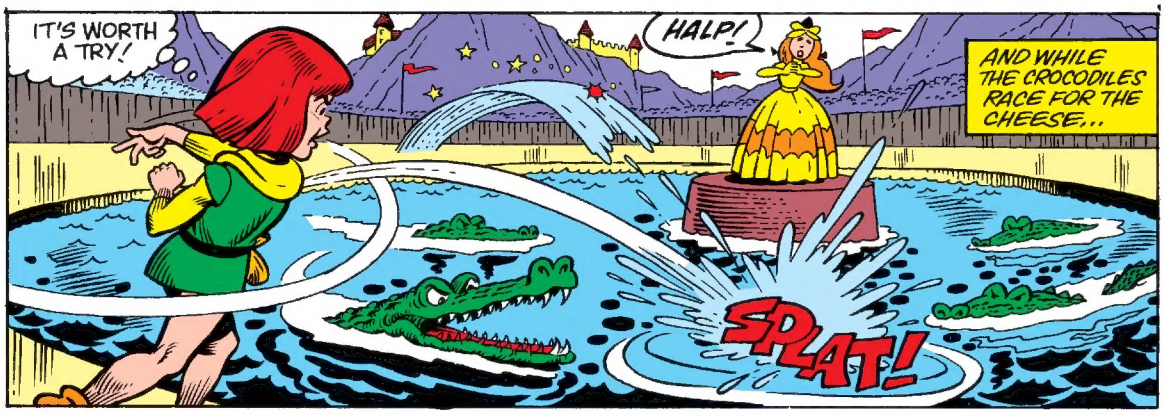

AND SHORT MINUTES LATER...
GET READY-- GET SET...
I DON'T KNOW HOW I CAN POSSIBLY WIN WITHOUT ANY MAGIC KIT OR NOTES --BUT I'LL TRY!
YE GONG

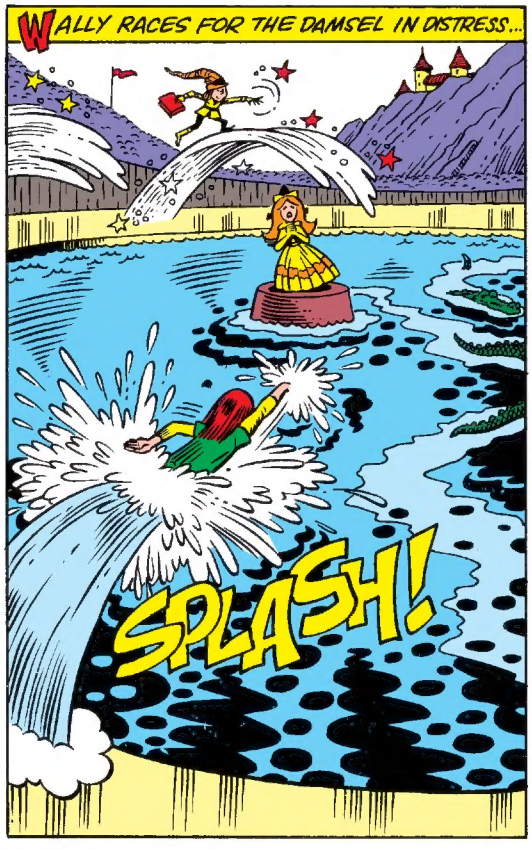
BLONG!


GO!!
AND THEY ARE OFF!
I MUST BE OFF TO EVEN ENTER THIS CONTEST!!
YE GONG

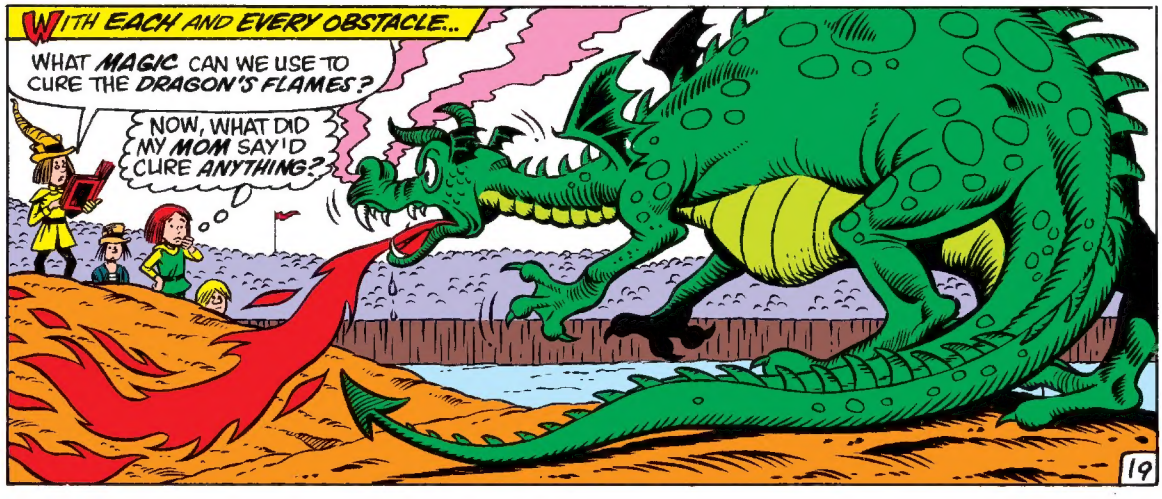

MOMENTS LATER, THEY REACH THE FIRST OBSTACLE...
GOLLY! THEY'RE USING MAGIC TO BUILD BRIDGES TO THE DAMSEL! AND ME WITHOUT A SINGLE MAGIC SPELL!
SAVE ME! I AM A FAIR YOUNG MAIDEN!!

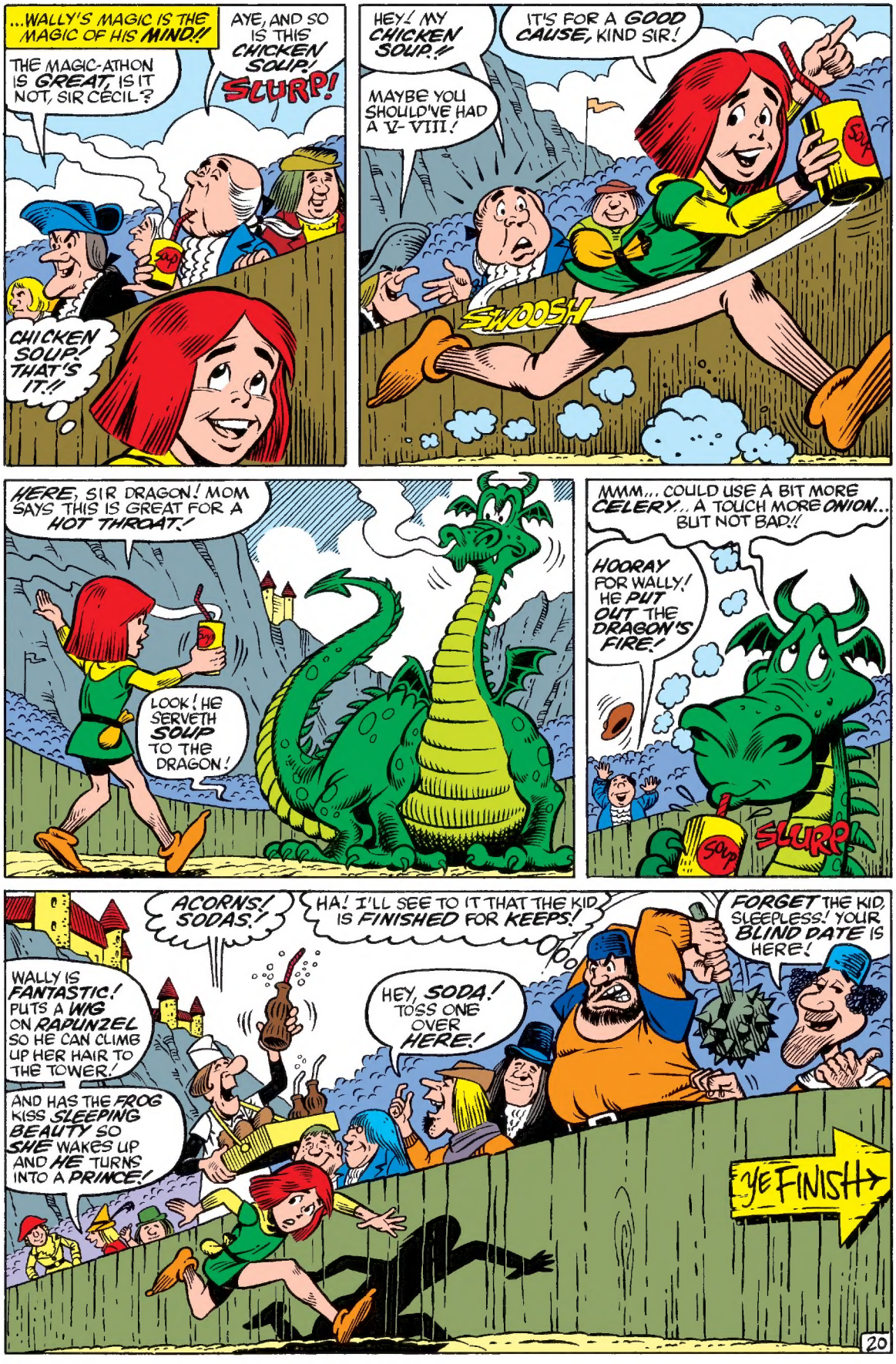
BUT I DO HAVE THIS PIECE OF CHEESE I TOOK ALONG FOR A SNACK...
HMMM...

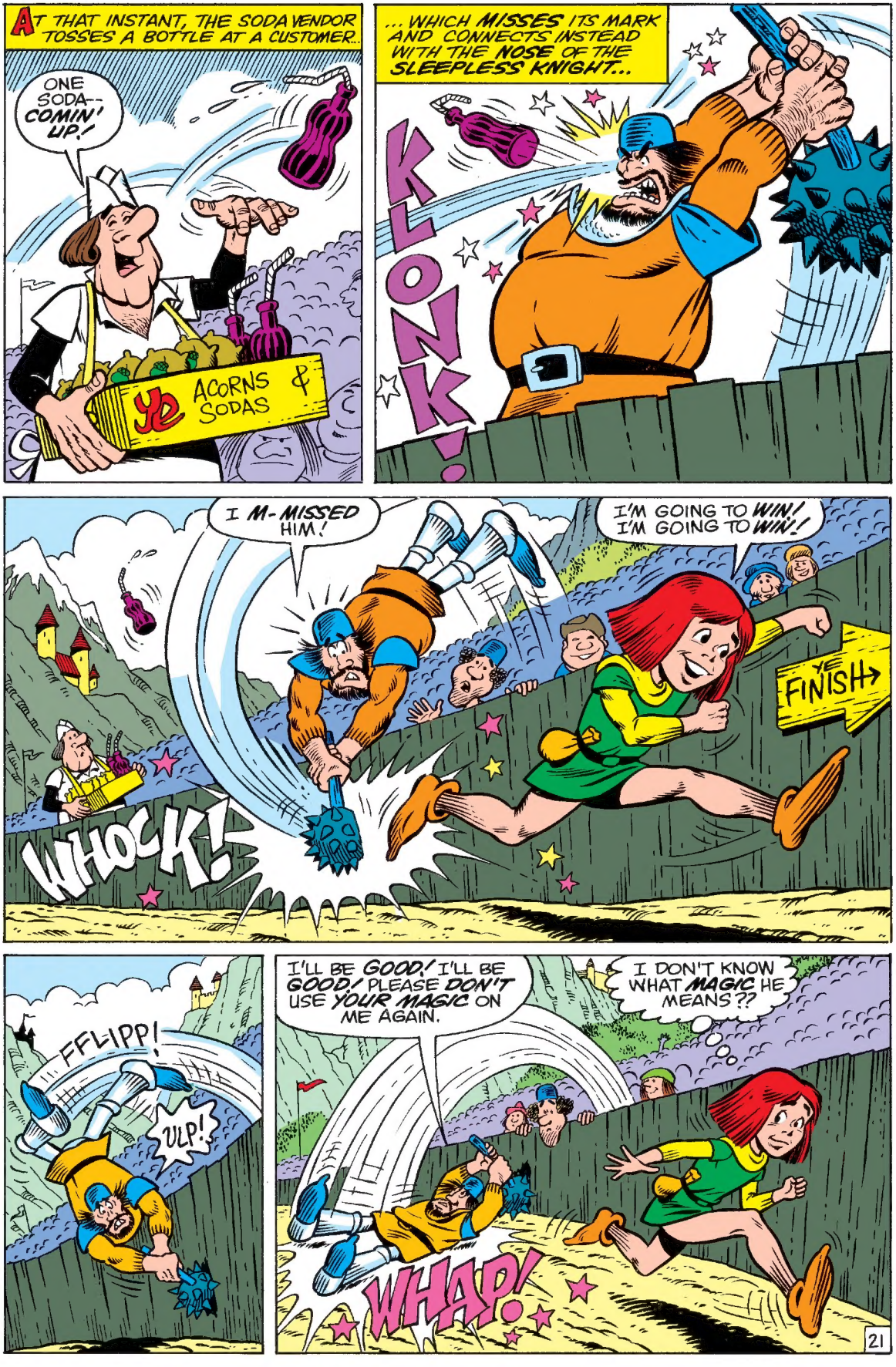

IT'S WORTH A TRY!
HALP!
AND WHILE THE CROCODILES RACE FOR THE CHEESE...
SPLAT!

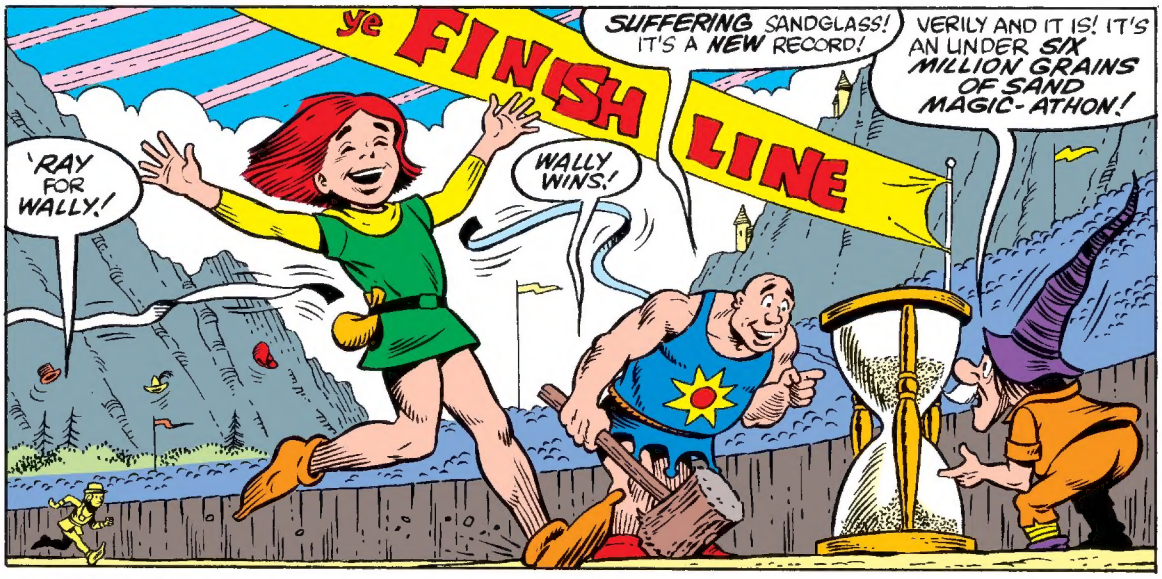

WALLY RACES FOR THE DAMSEL IN DISTRESS...
SPLASH!

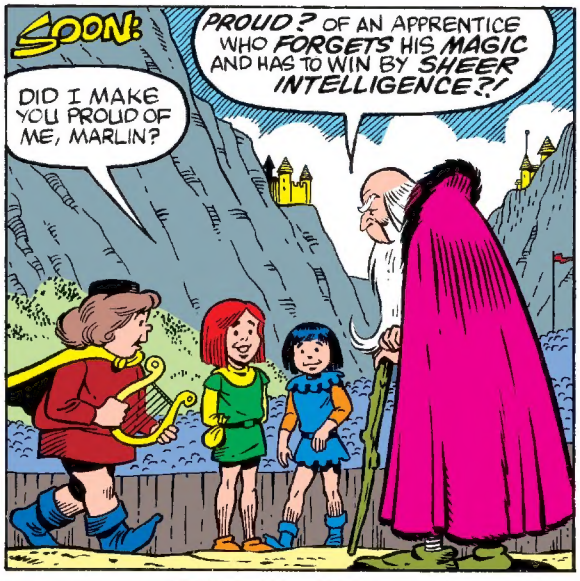
...AND, INDEED, HE IS THE FIRST TO BRING HER ACROSS!
?
COULDN'T YOU LET ME WAIT FOR A MAGIC BRIDGE?

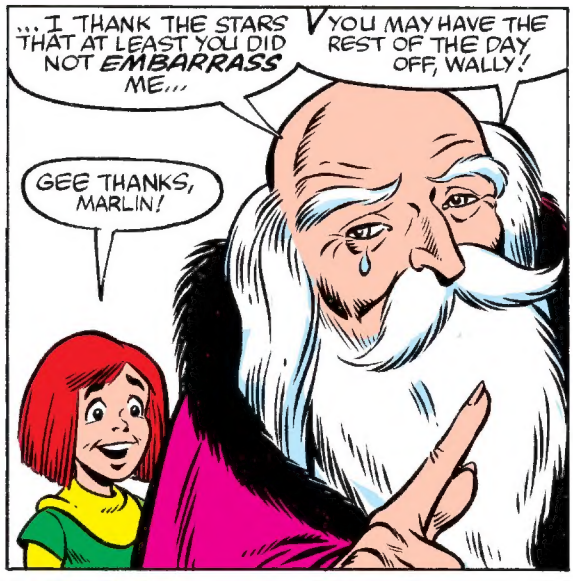

WITH EACH AND EVERY OBSTACLE...
WHAT MAGIC CAN WE USE TO CURE THE DRAGON'S FLAMES?
NOW, WHAT DID MY MOM SAY'D CURE ANYTHING?

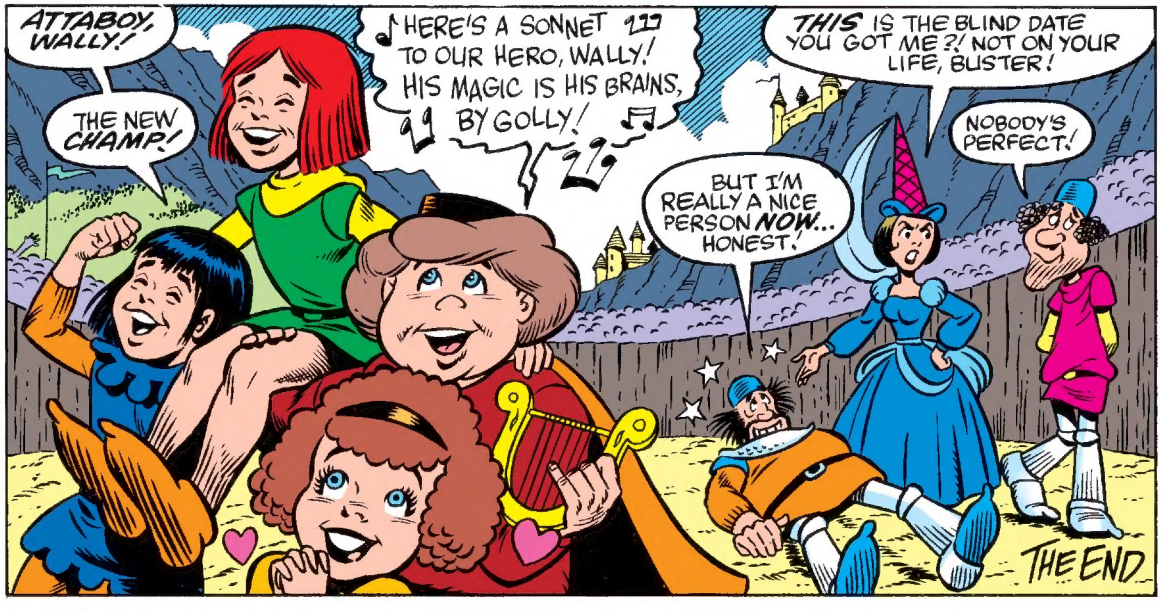

...WALLY'S MAGIC IS THE MAGIC OF HIS MIND!!
THE MAGIC-ATHON IS GREAT, IS IT NOT, SIR CECIL?
AYE, AND SO IS THIS CHICKEN SOUP! SLURP!
CHICKEN SOUP! THAT'S IT!!
HEY! MY CHICKEN SOUP!!
MAYBE YOU SHOULD'VE HAD A V-VIII!
IT'S FOR A GOOD CAUSE, KIND SIR!
SWOOSH
HERE, SIR DRAGON! MOM SAYS THIS IS GREAT FOR A HOT THROAT!
LOOK! HE SERVETH SOUP TO THE DRAGON!
MMM... COULD USE A BIT MORE CELERY... A TOUCH MORE ONION... BUT NOT BAD!!
HOORAY FOR WALLY! HE PUT OUT THE DRAGON'S FIRE!
SLURP!
ACORNS! SODAS!
HA! I'LL SEE TO IT THAT THE KID IS FINISHED FOR KEEPS!
FORGET THE KID, SLEEPLESS! YOUR BLIND DATE IS HERE!
WALLY IS FANTASTIC! PUTS A WIG ON RAPUNZEL SO HE CAN CLIMB UP HER HAIR TO THE TOWER!
HEY, SODA! TOSS ONE OVER HERE!
AND HAS THE FROG KISS SLEEPING BEAUTY SO SHE WAKES UP AND HE TURNS INTO A PRINCE!
YE FINISH


AT THAT INSTANT, THE SODA VENDOR TOSSES A BOTTLE AT A CUSTOMER...
ONE SODA-- COMIN' UP!
Ye ACORNS & SODAS
...WHICH MISSES ITS MARK AND CONNECTS INSTEAD WITH THE NOSE OF THE SLEEPLESS KNIGHT...
KLONK!
I M-MISSED HIM!
I'M GOING TO WIN! I'M GOING TO WIN!
Ye FINISH
WHOCK!
FFLIPP!
ULP!
I'LL BE GOOD! I'LL BE GOOD! PLEASE DON'T USE YOUR MAGIC ON ME AGAIN.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT MAGIC HE MEANS??
WHAP!


ye FINISH LINE
'RAY FOR WALLY!
WALLY WINS!
SUFFERING SANDGLASS! IT'S A NEW RECORD!
VERILY AND IT IS! IT'S AN UNDER SIX MILLION GRAINS OF SAND MAGIC-ATHON!


SOON:
DID I MAKE YOU PROUD OF ME, MARLIN?
PROUD? OF AN APPRENTICE WHO FORGETS HIS MAGIC AND HAS TO WIN BY SHEER INTELLIGENCE?!


...I THANK THE STARS THAT AT LEAST YOU DID NOT EMBARRASS ME...
YOU MAY HAVE THE REST OF THE DAY OFF, WALLY!
GEE THANKS, MARLIN!


ATTABOY, WALLY!
THE NEW CHAMP!
♪ HERE'S A SONNET TO OUR HERO, WALLY! HIS MAGIC IS HIS BRAINS, BY GOLLY! ♪
THIS IS THE BLIND DATE YOU GOT ME?! NOT ON YOUR LIFE, BUSTER!
NOBODY'S PERFECT!
BUT I'M REALLY A NICE PERSON NOW... HONEST!
THE END